

Meeting Date: October 17, 2012

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SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN  
**DELTA CONSERVANCY**

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**Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy**  
**EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**October 17, 2012**

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**Program Update**

*Ecosystem Restoration:*

Delta Restoration Outreach: The Delta Conservancy, with representatives from other state and federal agencies involved in restoration, is conducting an outreach meeting to Delta residents concerning the current and planned ecosystem restoration activities in the Delta on October 29, 2012. The objective of this outreach meeting is to facilitate communication and understanding of the major current and planned ecosystem restoration and levee improvement efforts in the Delta and how the various State and federal agencies work together.

The Delta Conservancy staff created a diagram to help clarify the relationships between the various entities involved in restoration in the Delta.

*Economic Development:*

Delta Branding Project: Delta Conservancy staff conducted interviews, performed research and held several meetings with the Delta Community to assess their interest, introduce the Delta Branding Plan, and ask for suggestions and input to determine an effective process for a Delta Branding Project.

The Delta Branding project, through a Delta-wide collaboration process will develop a Delta Brand-and a 2 to 5-year marketing plan to promote the Delta, make it a visitor destination, and highlight the significance of the Delta to Californians. The Delta Conservancy is currently identifying funding opportunities to implement this project.

*Education and Outreach:*

Delta Dialogues

The Delta Dialogues continue to provide rich conversations and open the door to better shared understandings about the interest and concerns of the various Delta stakeholders. The August meeting began with a tour of the Greene and Hemly pear packing plant; the conversation focused on current proposals for the Delta—including BDCP—and how to address misinformation regarding the Delta. The stakeholders want the dialogues to continue into 2013, and the Conservancy is looking for funding to continue this program.

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California Coastal Cleanup Day

On September 15, the Delta Conservancy organized a clean up event in the Delta and took part in the 28th annual California Coastal Cleanup. For this effort, the Delta Conservancy partnered with California State Parks; Snodgrass Solutions, Inc, a nonprofit entity and California State University, Sacramento Environmental Students Organization and cleaned up Brannan Island State Park.

The Delta Conservancy volunteers and staff bagged 135 lbs of trash from the land and pulled from the water 1400 lbs of trash, including half a boat!

**Grant and Funding Programs Update**

*US Department of Agriculture:*

In August 2012, the Delta Conservancy submitted an application for \$50,000 for the Delta Branding Project, Phase I. Staff will be submitting for an \$80,000 federal grant in October and continues to seek cost share funding.

*Federal Clean Water Act Section 319(h) Grant:*

The Delta Conservancy staff coordinated with the San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition and other agencies and entities in the Delta to identify a project to implement management measures including the installation of pressurized irrigation systems and an educational and outreach program in the Delta

In September 2012, the Delta Conservancy submitted an application for a concept proposal for \$700,000 for the 2013 CWA 319 [h] California Nonpoint Source Grant Program Funds. The proposed project will implement management practices for two priority subwatersheds: Roberts Island and Terminous Tract Drain at Highway 12, to reduce pesticide discharge to Delta waterways.

**Conservancy Budget Update**

*Budget Change Proposal:*

In the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget Change Proposal (BCP), the Delta Conservancy requested a permanent baseline funding increase of \$230,000 from the General Fund and one permanent PY transferred from the Delta Stewardship Council to the Delta Conservancy. Funds will be used to hire a PY at the Associate Government Program Analyst level with annual salary and benefit of \$80,000 to function as an in-house administrative support staff. In addition, \$150,000 will be used to establish a contract for administrative and IT services to increase the office and staff efficiency and to provide dedicated support for the Delta Conservancy staff.

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*Federal Reimbursement Authority:*

Staff requested an increase of our Federal reimbursement authority. The Delta Conservancy received a grant from the Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, to work with the Water Education Foundation for water related public outreach activities. The increase in the Federal reimbursement authority will allow the Conservancy to expend the funds.

**Staff Update**

*New Hire:*

The Delta Conservancy welcomes Amanda Bohl. Amanda is the new Associate Government Program Analysts, started at Delta Conservancy on October 1st and will lead the economic development program. With a background in community development and conservation, Amanda has experience in the non-profit, philanthropic, and government sectors. Most recently, Amanda worked for the American Land Conservancy managing land transactions in the Central Valley and Sierra Nevada Foothills. Amanda also worked for Resources Law Group, helping to administer the Preserving Wild California re-granting program. Amanda grew up in Amador County and holds a M.S. in Community Development from the University of California, Davis.

**Outreach -Delta Meeting Matrix**

An attached matrix summarizes the most recent events and lists key dates of future meetings.

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